

IN THE CLAIMS:

The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

1. (Amended) An antimicrobial agent delivery system comprising:
an antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device;
a hub coupled to the intervention device; and
a delivery tube for containing the intervention device, wherein the delivery tube facilitates handling of the intervention device;
wherein longitudinal movement of the hub ejects the intervention device from the delivery tube and detaches the intervention device from the delivery system.
2. (Original) The delivery system of claim 1, wherein the intervention device is a rod.
3. (Original) The delivery system of claim 1, wherein the delivery tube has a longitudinal partition and a hub opening, wherein the hub opening provides external access to the hub, and wherein the longitudinal partition guides the hub longitudinally.
4. (Original) The delivery system of claim 3, wherein the hub is disposed within the delivery tube, and wherein the delivery system further including an extension arm coupled to the hub and extending through the hub opening.
5. (Original) The delivery system of claim 4, wherein the extension arm and the hub have a tapered connection point, and wherein the tapered connection point enables removal of the extension arm from the hub after ejection of the intervention device from the delivery tube.
6. (Withdrawn) The delivery system of claim 3, wherein the intervention device has a flex point and the hub is disposed outside the delivery tube.
7. (Original) The delivery system of claim 3, wherein the longitudinal partition is a perforation.

8. (Original) The delivery system of claim 3, wherein the longitudinal partition is a continuous slit.
9. (Withdrawn) The delivery system of claim 8, wherein the continuous slit is self-sealing.
10. (Original) The delivery system of claim 9, wherein the delivery tube comprises a low durometer thermoplastic polyurethane or polyethylene.
11. (Withdrawn) The delivery system of claim 1, wherein the delivery tube has a multiple lumen geometry defined by a first tube and a second tube, the intervention device being disposed within the first tube.
12. (Original) The delivery system of claim 1, wherein the hub has one or more apertures that enable fluid transfer through the hub when the intervention device is installed in a catheter.
13. (Withdrawn) The delivery system of claim 1, further including a plunger for pushing on the hub to eject the intervention device from the delivery tube.
14. (Original) The delivery system of claim 1, wherein an outer surface of the delivery tube includes at least one of a polyether block amide (PEBA), thermoplastic polyurethane (TPU), polyester elastomer, ionomer and thermoplastic vulcanizate to provide a relatively high surface texture.
15. (Original) The delivery system of claim 1, wherein the antimicrobial agent includes iodine, and wherein the delivery tube has an inner surface that is non-permeable to iodine.
16. (Original) The delivery system of claim 15, wherein the inner surface of the delivery tube is polyester or a similar material non-permeable to the particular antimicrobial agent.

17. (Original) The delivery system of claim 1, further including a valve coupled to an open end of the delivery tube.
18. (Amended) A method of fabricating an antimicrobial agent delivery system comprising:
coupling a hub to an antimicrobial agent-bearing intervention device;
forming a longitudinal partition and a hub opening in a delivery tube; and
disposing the intervention device within the delivery tube, the hub opening providing external access to the hub, wherein longitudinal movement of the hub ejects the intervention device from the delivery tube and detaches the intervention device from the delivery system.
19. (Original) The method of claim 18, further including:
coupling an external arm to the hub; and
disposing the hub within the delivery tube, the extension arm extending through the hub opening.
20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18, wherein the intervention device has a flex point, the method further including disposing the hub outside the delivery tube.